



**P R I M E
M I N I S T E R**

**STATEMENT BY
HIS EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER
KAY RALA XANANA GUSMÃO**

**JOINT LEADERS' SESSION OF THE HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON
MULTISTAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS**

**The Mulia Bali, Indonesia
2 September 2024**

Your Excellency, Jokowi Widodo President of the Republic of Indonesia,

Excellencies,

It is an honour to participate in this Joint Leaders' Session of the High-Level Forum on Multistakeholder Partnerships.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Indonesia for their warm hospitality and for organising this important forum.

I also commend Indonesia for its pivotal role in supporting South-South Cooperation.

In 1955, Indonesia brought together developing nations for the first time at the Bandung Conference, uniting the countries of the Global South in the pursuit of their common interests and standing firm in defence of their sovereignty.

Since then, the South have ensured that the principles enshrined in the Bandung spirit are woven into international treaties and multilateral cooperation frameworks.

*

Just three days ago, Timor-Leste celebrated the 25th anniversary of our Popular Consultation, where our people exercised their right to self-determination.

We were honoured to mark this important milestone with the presence of the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, and our international friends.

We are proud to have established a vibrant democratic State with a free and open society.

*

One important lesson we have learned from our history is the immense power of cooperation between fragile states.

We understand that development cannot be achieved without peace.

This is why Timor-Leste initiated the establishment of the g7+, a group of 20 fragile countries committed to supporting each other in achieving resilience and peace.

*

Today, the world faces disorder including the great challenges of global poverty, inequality, conflict and climate change.

It is important to recognise that we cannot address these issues alone.

We must explore new models of partnership and cooperation to support Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.

And we must make sure that our multistakeholder partnerships respect our sovereignty, our solidarity and the Spirit of Bandung.

*

In closing, I would like to once again thank Indonesia for organising this session. Together, we can reshape the global development agenda, unlock the full potential of the Global South, and build an international system that truly serves the needs of all nations.

Thank you.